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Death from yellow fever in Colon; case probably imported.

One case of yellow fever, resulting in death, was reported in Colon by the health officer on January 28, 1905. The patient was an American, about 4 months resident on the Isthmus, and came to the hospital in Colon from Culebra on the 25th, from which it can be assumed that the disease was not contracted in Colon. The diagnosis was not made until after death at the necropsy.

No other cases have been reported since.

Yellow fever situation and general health conditions at Panama.

The following is received from Minister Barrett, under date of January 17:

There has been a considerable increase in the number of yellow fever cases during last four weeks. The total number of cases since July 12 has now reached 18. There have been 12 since the 1st of December, and 6 or 7 since the 1st of January. During the last few days one or more "suspects" have been taken to the hospital each twenty-four hours. Several of these "suspects" have turned out to be some pernicious or acute malarial fever, but there are now 3 or 4 actual cases of yellow fever in the hospital. The only encouraging phase of the spread of the disease is that so far there have been, in the total of 18 cases, only 3 deaths.

The sanitary department, under Col. W. C. Gorgas, is doing everything in its power to fumigate all houses from which have been taken cases of yellow fever.

There is no reason for a panic here among the canal employees, and we are doing everything to avoid it; but there is no doubt that at this writing there is a marked increase in the cases of yellow and malarial fever. Considering the steps being taken by the sanitary corps the excellent hospital equipment, and the first-class treatment provided, together with the chances that only a very small proportion of the canal employees run the risk of being infected, there is little cause for alarm among either employees here or their families and relations at home.

No such percentage of the men and women here are having yellow fever and malaria as have the dangerous form of grippe and pneumonia in American cities during the winter. Just, however, as these northern diseases may be rapidly extended by unfavorable conditions, so yellow fever and malaria may spread here unless extraordinary efforts are made to kill off the mosquitoes and clean up the cities and towns along the line of the canal.

Health conditions among employees on Isthmian Canal.

The following is received from Minister Barrett at Panama, through the Department of State, under date of January 27:

Despite outbreak on *Boston*, among 4,600 employees on Isthmus, only 126, or less than 3 per cent, are to-day in hospitals, including all sickness. No yellow fever now among employees. Sanitary staff cleaning and fumigating entire city.